

# Castro Greets Ship Bearing U.S. Cargo; Jests With Captain

CPYRGHT

By Joe McGowan Jr.

HAVANA, Dec. 23 (AP) — Prime Minister Fidel Castro, in expansive mood, greeted members of the ransom ship African Pilot today and jestingly declared a 24-hour "state of peace" with the United States in observance of the goods-for-prisoners exchange.

The 10,000-ton freighter tied up in Havana Harbor at 2:05 p. m. with \$11 million worth of food and drugs as down payment for the freedom of 1113 Cuban Bay of Pigs invasion captives.

About three hours later, the first flights left a military air base near Havana carrying liberated prisoners to the United States.

American and Cuban Red Cross officials met to arrange an inventory of the African Pilot's cargo. Later, Castro visited the mooring place, inspected the ship's papers and chatted with her captain, Alfred Boerum.

Comparing notes with the skipper, Castro said he has been in politics as long as Boerum has been a seaman, 18 years.

When Castro jokingly declared a 24-hour "state of peace" during the ship's unloading, Boerum checked his watch and cracked back:

"Let's synchronize our time. In that case, I want to be under way 24 hours from now."

The bearded Prime Minister also took four Americans associated with the ransom delivery on a personal inspection tour of Havana.

Barrett Prettyman Jr., a Washington, D. C., attorney who supervised part of the shipping operation, told Castro he wanted to visit the home of the late Ernest Hemingway here.

"Come with me," Castro replied, and took in tow Prettyman, Boerum, former U. S. Surgeon General Leonard A. Scheele, and a newsman.

Castro hustled his surprised guests to the Hemingway home, through a modern, multi-million-dollar housing development, past an imposing array of government buildings ("I don't like bureaucracy," he remarked), and down the narrow

claiming, "whatever is done for friendship is useful," and "whatever you want here is yours."

Returning the visitors to the ship two hours later, he instructed his aides to meet all their wishes.

The Cubans said they probably could unload the 1400-ton cargo within 24 hours. The goods are badly needed to offset critical domestic shortages in Cuba.

"We know you want to go back for Christmas, so we'll work as fast as possible," Rafael More Leon, interpreter for Cuban Red Cross officials, told Capt. Boerum.

"This does not mean you cannot stay as long as you wish," More Leon added.

The African Pilot, which left Port Everglades, Fla., at 9:41 p. m. (EST) Saturday, steamed into Havana harbor at 2:05 p. m. Sunday soon after taking on a Cuban pilot and four Cuban Red Cross officials just outside.

The 10,000-ton vessel rode high in the water, indicating a light cargo. Two Red Crosses were painted on each side of its black hull and a Red Cross flag flew from the mast.

With a Cuban pilot aboard, she slipped past Morro Castle and La Cabana Castle and tied up at the Maritime Terminal. At least two police launches could be seen escorting her.

"We, in the name of the revolutionary government and the Cuban Red Cross, give you a warm welcome and hope your stay is very pleasant," the Cuban interpreter told the Americans.

"Our workers will do their best job to unload your ship as expediently and skillfully as you were loaded by the fine workers at Port Everglades, Fla."

Dr. Mario Escalona, a Cuban physician in the welcoming delegation, expressed particular interest in medicine and surgical instruments listed on the manifest.

Boerum said he wanted to be sure that the cargo would be stored under tight security.

"You are in a place where security is no problem," a Cuban quipped.

After the Americans' government and Cuban Red Cross officials were allowed to approach the vessel.

DEC 24 1962

FOIAb3b

# Red Spy Defense First Put Donovan In U. S. Spotlight

CPYRGHT

Special to The Washington Post  
From The Los Angeles Times

Brooklyn attorney James that in my time on this court

Britt Donovan, who negotiated the release of the 1113 Cubans captured during the April, 1961, Bay of Pigs invasion, first came to national attention in 1957 when he defended Russian Col. Rudolph Ivanovich Abel on charges of stealing United States defense and nuclear secrets for Moscow.

Donovan was appointed defense counsel by a Brooklyn Federal court after the Soviet government refused to make a move in Abel's defense. Justice Miles of the Brooklyn Supreme Court said of the case: "Not since John Adams defended the British soldiers for the Boston massacre in 1770, would a defense lawyer take on a less popular client."

Donovan considered the task distasteful but he took it because he believed "every man is entitled to a fair trial and the right of counsel. Even a man coming here to plan our destruction . . . should get the best possible defense lawyer . . . If the Free World is not faithful to its own moral code, there remains no society for which others may hunger."

During the trial Donovan was accused of being a "Commie-lover," even by some lawyers, and his family was harassed. Although he spent hundreds of hours on the defense, Abel was convicted, sentenced to 30 years in prison and fined \$3000. He could have been executed.

Chief Justice Earl W. Warren said of Donovan after the Supreme Court upheld Abel's conviction: "I think I can say

no man has undertaken a more arduous and self-sacrificing task."

Donovan donated the \$10,000 legal fee he received from Abel's "relatives" in East Germany to three universities.

Late in 1960 Donovan received a letter from a "Hellen Abel," who represented herself as Abel's wife, residing in East Berlin. She appealed to Donovan to seek clemency for her husband. Donovan referred the appeal to the Justice Department.

A year later, after numerous letters passed among Hellen Abel, Donovan and the Justice Department, President Kennedy decided Soviet-United States relations had thawed enough for Donovan to go to East Berlin and "explore" the possibility of exchanging Abel for U-2 pilot Gary Francis Powers. Powers had been sentenced to 10 years imprisonment for espionage after his plane crashed on Soviet territory in May, 1960.

Donovan flew to East Berlin to confer at the Soviet Embassy with his Russian counterpart. Agreement was reached after two weeks of negotiating. On Saturday, Feb. 10, Donovan watched from the foot of the Glienicke Bridge between West Berlin and East Germany as Abel returned to Communism and Powers to Freedom.

Also released as a result of Donovan's negotiations was Frederic Leroy Pryor, 28-year-old Michigan student charged by the Reds with spying.

Donovan, 46, is a stocky man whose silvery white hair is receding above his forehead. He was born in the Bronx Feb. 20, 1916, the son of a prominent surgeon. He received his AB degree from Fordham University in 1937 and his LLB from Harvard Law School in 1940. In 1943 he entered the Navy as an ensign and became general counsel for the Office of Strategic Services, rising to the rank of commander.

After the war he was appointed assistant to the U. S. chief prosecutor at the Nuremberg war crimes trials. He holds the Legion of Merit.

A partner in the law firm of Watters & Donovan, he was appointed a member of the New York City Board of Education last year, later becoming its vice president.

and their four children in a 15-room duplex apartment in Brooklyn.